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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Airfield of Baku

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1. The about 6,600 x 10,000 foot BAKU (49°50'N.40°25'N) airfield was located at the northern town border. It was separated from PW Camp No. 7328/4 by a road. There were four hangars at the western edge of the field. One was fully completed and three were bare brick structures. There were four-story barracks blocks and night lights.
2. Flying was very heavy during the day and night. The airfield occupation averaged 280 to 300 aircraft. The two following types were mainly observed:
 - a. Single-engine Yak fighters.
 - b. Twenty-five to thirty single-engine fighters: Far projecting fuselage, nose wheel, all-metal construction, noticeably shining silvery paint, tapering wings, in-line engine, one cannon in each wing. The aircraft flew at a high speed.
3. Antiaircraft guns of from 47 mm to 127 mm calibers and searchlight batteries were emplaced at all important spots in the town, such as the railroad station, the port, the Stalin Plant, at the KISHLY main oil fields and on the road to SUMGAIT. The batteries were frequently moved to other places but always remained in the vicinity of the object to be protected.
4. Air force and antiaircraft units held joint training exercises several times during the period of observation (particularly since 1948), mostly at night so that the searchlight batteries had to be put into operation.

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Comment:

- a. Report contains valuable information confirming previous observations. #1. Although the above fighter type with nose wheel is not identical to any so far known type, it is assumed with great certainty that a night fighter type is concerned. No features which might indicate that these fighters were turbine

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aircraft were reported. The trough-shaped protrusion under the fuselage, which was previously mentioned² cannot be commented on since it might be provided for the radiator, the nose wheel, or a radar set. The stated occupation of 280 to 300 aircraft, which seems to be overrated, confirms the heavy occupation of the airfield.

b. It is assumed that a fighter school for day and night flight training and probably a night fighter unit are stationed at the airfield. Both the joint exercises of fighters and anti-aircraft artillery performed at day and night, and the great number of antiaircraft emplacements observed, again confirm that an air defense concentration must be located in this area.

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